

## Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAJ-01 OMB-01 ACDA-19 NIC-01 IO-14 USSS-00

SY-10 DRC-01 /147 W

----- 107422

R 041254Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1825

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 1876

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, PINS, AU

SUBJECT: CONTROVERSY OVER SEJNA-LUETGENDORF TV

INTERVIEWS ON WARSAW PACT PLANS FOR

INVASION OF AUSTRIA

REF: VIENNA 1708

1. SUMMARY: THIRD PROFIL ARTICLE SKETCHES SEVERAL  
SCENARIOS ON POLITICAL AFTERMATH OF WARSAW PACT  
INVASION OF AUSTRIA AND ARGUES FOR AUSTRIAN MILITARY  
RESISTANCE TO SUCH INVASION. ON FEBRUARY 28  
CHANCELLOR KREISY STATED AUSTRIAN TV, IN AIRING  
PROGRAM, HAD BEEN "MISUSED BY SECRET SERVICES" BUT  
THAT AUSTRIANS SHOULD NOT WORRY BECAUSE AUSTRIAN  
NEUTRALITY HAS BEEN STRENGTHENED. CZECHOSLOVAK,  
USSR AND FINNISH EMBASSIES HAVE BELABORED MFA OVER  
SEJNA-LUETGENDORF TV INTERVIEWS WHILE YUGOSLAVS  
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ARE EXPECTED TO DO SO THIS WEEK. CONTROVERSY HAS

PROVED EMBARRASSING TO GOA, LARGELY BECAUSE OF  
DEFENSE MINISTRY'S PARTICIPATION IN TV PROGRAM.  
END SUMMARY

2. PROFIL PUBLISHED FEBRUARY 28 THIRD AND LAST  
ARTICLE OF SERIES BASED ON SEJNA INTERVIEW RE  
1968 WARSAW PACT PLANS FOR INVASION OF AUSTRIA.  
ARTICLE SETS FORTH USSR PLAN FOR SETTING UP  
OCCUPATION OF AUSTRIA WITH SOVIET EMBASSY IN  
VIENNA AND 4,000 COLLABORATORS BEING ASSIGNED  
KEY ROLES. FORESEEN AFTER MILITARY INVASION,  
ACCORDING TO SEJNA, ARE THREE POLITICAL POSSI-  
BILITIES FOR AUSTRIA: (A) DIVISION OF COUNTRY  
INTO WARSAW PACT ADMINISTERED EASTERN AUSTRIA  
AND NATO-DEPENDENT WEST AUSTRIA; (B) AN INDEPEN-  
DENT AUSTRIA A LA FINLAND; OR (C) CONVERSION OF  
AUSTRIA INTO FULL SOVIET SATELLITE. ARTICLE  
ALSO CONTAINS SEPARATE INTERVIEW WITH SEJNA MAKING  
CASE WHY AUSTRIA SHOULD OPPOSE INVASION FROM WARSAW  
PACT POWERS AND WHY, GIVEN EXPERIENCES OF RECENT  
MIDDLE EAST WAR, ANTI-TANK WEAPONS OFFER PROSPECT  
OF SLOWING ARMOR THRUSTS, PROBABLE DEVELOPMENT  
WHICH WOULD GIVE SOVIET UNION SECOND THOUGHTS ABOUT  
INVADING AUSTRIA.

3. ON SAME DAY AS PROFIL ARTICLE APPEARED, CHANCELLOR  
KREISKY OBSERVED IN CABINET MEETING THAT AUSTRIAN  
RADIO AND TV (ORF) HAD OBVIOUSLY BEEN "MISUSED"  
AND THAT "SECRET SERVICES IN GENERAL ONLY PUBLISH  
THAT WHICH THEY WANT TO PUBLISH FOR CERTAIN REASONS".  
HE REASSURED COUNTRY THAT AUSTRIAN POLICY ON  
NEUTRALITY HAS BEEN SO STRENGTHENED THAT THERE WAS  
NO NEED FOR ALARM AND THAT RUMORS ABOUT RESIGNATION  
OF MINISTER LUETGENDORF BECAUSE OF TV INTERVIEW WERE  
WITHOUT FOUNDATION.

4. ORF EDITORS COUNCIL, WHICH HAS BEEN UNDER  
ATTACK FROM SOCIALIST GOVERNMENT AND PARTY FOR  
SCHEDULING PROGRAM, ISSUED STATEMENT FEBRUARY 27  
IN ITS DEFENSE THAT FOREIGN MINISTER KIRCHSCHLAEGER  
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AND LUETGENDORF HAD INFORMALLY CLEARED PROGRAM  
ABOUT MONTH AGO AND THAT LUETGENDORF HAD EVEN  
MADE SOME COMPLIMENTARY OBSERVATIONS ON CONTENT  
OF PROGRAM.

5. HIGH-LEVEL MFA SOURCE HAS TOLD US THAT CZECHOSLOVAK,  
RUSSIAN AND FINNISH EMBASSIES HAVE REGISTERED  
STRONG COMPLAINTS IN RECENT DAYS WITH MFA

ABOUT TV PROGRAM AND THAT YUGOSLAVS ARE EXPECTED TO DO SO SHORTLY. CZECHOSLOVAK AMBASSADOR MADE FORMAL DEMARCHE BELABORING GOA FOR ALLOWING "ANTI-COMMUNIST, COLD-WAR PROGAGANDA" TO APPEAR ON "GOVERNMENT-OWNED" TV STATION AND FOR GIVING SEJNA'S CHARGES OFFICIAL SANCTION BY PERMITTING TV APPEARANCE OF AUSTRIAN DEFENSE MINISTER AS PART OF PROGRAM. ACCORDING TO CZECH AMBASSADOR, TV SHOW WAS SEEN IN PRAGUE BY HUSAK WHO FULMINATED OVER ITS CONTENTS AND WHO HAS IN TURN ORDERED DELAY IN RESUMPTION OF AUSTRIAN-CZECHOSLOVAK PROPERTY CLAIMS TALKS WHICH HAD BEEN EXPECTED TO RESUME FAIRLY SHORTLY. RUSSIANS HAVE REGISTERED INFORMALLY THEIR IRE OVER PROGRAM WITH KIRCHSCHLAEGER AND SENIOR MFA MEMBERS AND WITH SPOE CENTRAL SECRETARY MARSCH WHO EARLIER RAISED ISSUE OF PROPRIETY OF PROGRAM WITH ORF DIRECTORS (REF VIENNA 1708). THRUST OF SOVIET COMPLAINT WAS ALLEGED ADVERSE EFFECT PROGRAM WOULD HAVE ON EFFORTS TOWARD DETENTE. FINNISH COMPLAINT, WHICH MFA DISMISSED AS MERE CONFIRMATION OF FINLAND'S "SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP" WITH USSR, TOOK UMBRAGE WITH DEFENSE MINISTRY'S COMMENTS ON DANGER TO OTHER NEUTRALS, INCLUDING AUSTRIA, OF "FINLANDIZATION"., YUGOSLAVS REPORTEDLY VERY UNHAPPY OVER TV PROGRAM AND PLANNING DEMARCHE RE DEFENSE MINISTRY'S OBSERVATION THAT HE WAS READY TO PROVIDE SOVIET UNION WITH INVASION PLANS FOR YUGOSLAVIA WHICH WOULD ELIMINATE NEED TO USE AUSTRIAN TERRITORY AS FORESEEN IN 1968 WARSAW PACT PLAN, ACCORDING TO SEJNA.

6. COMMENT: PARTICIPATION OF DEFENSE MINISTER IN PROGRAM AND PROGRAM'S REPORTED EARLIER INFORMAL CONFIDENTIAL

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CLEARANCE BY MINISTERS OF DEFENSE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAVE BECOME SOURCE OF EMBARRASSMENT FOR GOA DOMESTICALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY. CHANCELLOR'S CABINET STATEMENT WAS AIMED AT REASSURING AUSTRIAN POPULACE THAT AUSTRIA IS NOT ENDANGERED AT MOMENT. AUSTRIA'S RELATIONS WITH EE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES MAY UNDERGO MINOR HIATUS AS CZECHOSLOVAKS AND RUSSIANS AND POSSIBLY OTHER WARSAW PACT MEMBERS BELABOR GOA FOR ALLOWING WHAT TERMED ANTI-COMMUNIST AND ANTI-DETENTE ATTACKS IN AUSTRIAN MEDIA. SOME GOA CIRCLES ARE QUESTIONING WHETHER CONTROVERSY MAY POSSIBLY HAVE ADVERSE IMPACT ON KREISKY'S SCHEDULED STATE VISIT TO MOSCOW IN EARLY SUMMER. END COMMENT HUMES

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## Message Attributes

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**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL SITUATION, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, MILITARY PLANS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 04 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, PGOV, PINS, AU  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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